

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 4, 2010

The Public Safety Committee meeting was called to order by Chief Cox at 0730. The following members were present: Charles Schneider, Russ Trimble; Jeff Pomeranz, Scott Sanders, Don Cox, Jack O'Donnell, Jody Smith, Mike Whitsell, Joe Cory, Jason Wittgraf, Larry Richards, Paul Barrows, David Edgar, James Sargent, Mike Ficcola, Jody Hayes, Jessica Clinton, Chris Shires and Michelle McKelvogue. Citizens present Gary Thelen and Byron Smith.

CITIZENS REQUEST

Associate Planner Clinton gave an overview of the issues and process to date to come up with a more workable address for the residents of Cedar Village who live in the buildings off the alley between 6th & 7th Streets. The City has proposed a renumbering of the buildings, but the proposal was not approved by at least 80% of the residents. The residents who live on the alley side would like a street name for the alley. During discussion between residents, council members and staff, it was explained naming the alley will put public safety at risk for those residents that live on the alley side of 6th Street. The alley is not designed for fire truck access, but, if the alley is named it will be entered into the Fire Department's response system as a street that is accessible by a fire truck. This could lead to a delay in the Fire Department's response time. As a solution, it was suggested in lieu of the ½ Street addresses, to use the letter B for the addresses off of the alley. Clinton will check with the Post Office and WestCom to make sure this is a viable solution. Mr. Thelen will communicate with the Homeowners Association. A signage board with current addresses should be installed as well, with the City paying part of the costs for the sign.

REVIEW OF LAST MEETING MINUTES

All items remaining open from the last meeting are listed on the agenda.

FACILITIES / EQUIPMENT

City Manager Pomeranz, Chief O'Donnell and Captain Richards met with the Animal Rescue League (ARL) to tour their facility, get an overview of services they offer, and discuss the possibility of contracting the ARL for animal control for the City of West Des Moines. The ARL has determined they would need to construct a new facility in one of the western suburbs if they were to add the western suburbs to their service territory. The ARL will allow our animal control officers to apply for jobs if they are awarded the City of West Des Moines Animal Control contract. The ARL will provide a proposal to the City. After discussion, it was requested the proposal include using our current facility, after some modifications vs. construction of a new facility, and the operation budget be separated from the capital budget.

Captain Barrows reported the EOC is nearly complete. A few electronic and technology issues remain. The June 14th Council Workshop will be held at the EOC. Also, some dirt work and the addition of gutters will begin next week with an anticipated completion date of Mid-August.

PLANNING / OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Public Works Deputy Director Cory informed the committee of steps taken when dealing with citizen complaints and requests for additional traffic control signage. He also outlined data collected from the radar trailer and road strips. Additionally, Public Works has recently purchased two Driver Feedback Signs, which are portable, and will help with educating the public. After discussion, the City Manager requested the purchase of two more Driver Feedback Signs as the size of the City and number of complaints warrants additional signs. Councilmen thanked Public Works and the Police Department for being so responsive to these types of requests.

CODES / ORDINANCES

City Attorney Wittgraf outlined several changes in the 3rd Reading of the Noise Permit Ordinance as it deals with Sound Permits. Most notable changes include language for requiring a sound permit for amplified prerecorded music, City Council approval required for sound permit activities that conclude after 10:00 PM, ability to revoke or modify a permit for violation of ordinance, and a clause the Chief of Police or designee can terminate the sound permit activity for repeated excessive sound levels. A Public Notice will be made before the 3rd Reading.

COLLABORATION / PARTNERSHIP / PROGRAMS

Assistant City Manager Sanders clarified the budget figures provided by the City of Des Moines for the renewal of the Homeland Security 28E Agreement. After discussion, it was determined the City Manager will request a meeting with signators of the Agreement to identify a unified proposal. Requested additions to the Agreement should include a termination agreement, annual projected costs vs. actual expense summary, creation of a specific cost center for this item, and the ability to redistribute contributions to the budget based on actual expenses.

Captain Richards requested approval to apply for the Byrne Memorial Grant which the Police Department would use to modify the booking area at Station 19. Modifications would include installation of video cameras and improve the locking system. The Grant is for \$21,480. and requires no matching funds. Councilmen present approved request.

City Manager Pomeranz reported a \$32,000,000 I-JOBS Grant for Disaster Preparedness is becoming available. Our Fire Department Training Facility might fit the Grant criteria, as well as any other area that prepares the City for disaster preparedness. Submittal deadline is expected to be in July.

Assistant Chief Edgar reported, after a request from Councilman Trevillyan, data was gathered to determine if the Alliance partnership was responsible for requiring the WDM EMS to request mutual aid from other EMS providers more frequently. The data gathered from the last 18 months indicates mutual aid is used less frequently. The report will be given to Councilman Trevillyan.

Assistant Chief Edgar requested approval for WestCom to apply for an Assistance to FF Grant. Funding would add an Alerting System to all West Des Moines, Clive and Urbandale Fire and EMS Stations. The Alerting System would allow WestCom to electronically notify stations that a call is being taken for their coverage area and the ability to gradually alter lighting in the stations. Funding for the Grant would be 20% from 911 funds and 80% Grant funds. Councilmen present approved request.

OPEN FORUM

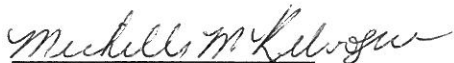
Fire Marshal Whitsell reported AVIVA starts occupying on Monday. An estimated 13,000 people will occupy the facility by the end of summer. In testing the alarm system, it was found the address of 7710 is coming across 911 when the correct address is 7700 Mills Civic, however 911 does note AVIVA Headquarters. The issue is being resolved. Also note that AVIVA is an extremely secured building much like Wells Fargo.

Councilman Trimble asked if the citizen who attended an ultimate fighting night at Uncle Bucks was satisfied with the response to the 911 call she placed after a fighter was severely injured. Chief O'Donnell believed the issue is resolved satisfactorily. Councilman Trimble will make contact with the citizen.

NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be Friday, August 6, 2010 at Station 21, at 0730.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 0915.



Michelle McKelvogue, Recording Secretary

Any discussion, feedback or recommendation by committee members should not be construed or understood to be an action or decision by or for the West Des Moines City Council. Further, any recommendation the committee may make to the City Council is based on information provided to the committee at this point in time.